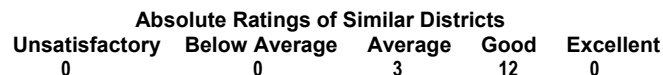


Oconee

ABSOLUTE RATING: Good
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Below Average



Definitions of District Rating Terms

Excellent- District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

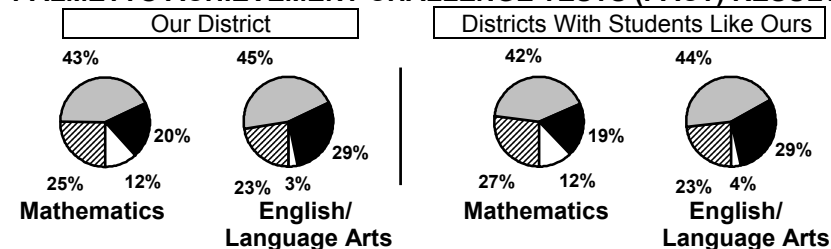
Good- District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average- District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average- District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory- District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



Advanced
 Proficient
 Basic
 Below Basic

DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2002		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Students Scoring Basic or Above on The PACT		
	N	%	N	%	N	% ELA	% Math
All students	587	97.3%	518	27.0%	4,705	77.4%	74.8%
Students with disabilities other than speech	29	93.1%	36	0.0%	890	50.8%	49.0%
Students without disabilities	558	96.4%	482	29.0%	3,786	84.2%	81.5%
Gender							
Male	276	95.7%	240	25.4%	2,483	72.3%	73.5%
Female	308	96.8%	278	28.4%	2,222	83.1%	76.3%
Ethnic Group							
African American	51	100.0%	52	7.7%	626	60.7%	57.0%
Hispanic	12	75.0%	10	0.0%	178	62.9%	63.5%
White	516	96.3%	453	29.8%	3,877	80.6%	78.2%
Other	3	I/S	3	I/S	21	100.0	90.5%
Lunch Status							
Free/reduced-price lunch	103	91.3%	93	3.2%	2,202	70.0%	67.8%
Pay for lunch	467	97.2%	425	32.2%	2,456	85.2%	82.2%

N equals number of students on which percentages are calculated.

*Using the criteria for students who entered college in fall 2001.

Oconee

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	2000	2001	2002
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	82.1%	81.6%	75.6%
Passed 2 subtests	11.0%	12.0%	16.4%
Passed 1 subtest	5.8%	5.2%	4.8%
Passed no subtest	1.2%	1.2%	3.2%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	69.7%	71.0%	70.0%
Passed 2 subtests	16.1%	16.4%	16.2%
Passed 1 subtest	8.9%	8.2%	8.6%
Passed no subtest	5.3%	4.3%	5.2%

LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions*

	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	27.0	56.0
Districts Like Ours	21.6	53.5
		28.0
		22.4

*Using the criteria for students who entered college in fall 2001.

College Admissions Tests: Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
District	503	509	499	523	1002	1032	19.4	20.1	19.1	19.8	19.9	20.8	19.9	20.3	19.7	20.4
State	486	488	488	493	974	981	18.8	18.8	19.3	19.1	19.5	19.3	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.2
Nation	506	504	514	516	1020	1020	20.5	20.2	20.7	20.6	21.3	21.1	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

These tests were administered to samples of students:

Terra Nova Test: A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

National Assessment of Education Progress : A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

ABBREVIATIONS FOR MISSING DATA

N/A – Not Applicable

N/C – Not Collected

N/R – Not Reported

I/S – Insufficient Sample

DISTRICT PROFILE

INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
DISTRICT				
• Dollars per student	\$8,061	Up 11.8%	\$6,647	\$7,072
• Prime instructional time	89.9%	Down from 90.7%	90.2%	89.9%
• Student-teacher ratio	26.8 to 1	Up from 21.3 to 1	19.7 to 1	18.6 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.0%	Down from 0.6%	0.1%	0.4%
STUDENTS (n=10,101)				
• Advanced placement/ Int'l baccalaureate program:				
Participation Rate	8.6%	N/A	10.2%	9.3%
Exam Success Rate	52.7%	N/A	51.3%	52.7%
• Attendance Rate	97.2%	Up from 96.7%	96.2%	96.0%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	9.9%	Up from 4.7%	6.2%	7.1%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	9.6%	Up from 5.3%	4.0%	5.6%
• Retention rate	4.8%	Down from 5.9%	4.8%	5.6%
TEACHERS (n=782)				
• Professional development days per teacher	5.0 Days	Down from 7.1Days	5.0 Days	5.0 Days
• Attendance rate	94.3%	Down from 95.5%	95.2%	95.0%
• Advanced Degrees	49.4%	Down from 49.9%	51.6%	46.6%
• Continuing contracts	85.3%	Down from 85.8%	84.5%	83.1%
• Out-of-field permits	2.4%	Up from 0.9%	1.7%	2.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	90.1%	Down from 91.0%	90.1%	88.6%
• Average salary	\$40,548	Up 3.6%	\$40,152	\$39,023

DISTRICT FACTS

DISTRICT				
• Annual dropout rate	1.9%	Down from 2.8%	3.1%	3.1%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	54.1%	Up from 51.2%	54.1%	53.7%
• Superintendent's years in the district	8.0	Up from 7.0	7.0	3.0
• Parent conferences	99.0%	Up from 85.8%	97.2%	93.9%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	Up from Fair	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	21	No change	14	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	No change	0	0
• Portable classrooms	3.4%	Up from 2.3%	6.4%	6.6%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	97.3%	Down from 97.6%	97.1%	96.8%
• Average administrative salary	\$69,233	Up 7.6%	\$69,233	\$66,570
STUDENTS				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	250	N/A	142	129
• Number of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	127	N/A	41	37
• Suspensions and expulsions	2.9%	N/A	1.3%	1.5%
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	12.4%	Up from 11.0%	14.9%	10.6%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	15.9%	Up from 14.8%	10.6%	10.7%

Oconee School District
101 East North Broad St.
Walhalla, SC 29691



Grades K-12

Enrollment: 10,101 Students

Superintendent Buddy G. Herring 864-638-4000

Board Chair Harry B. Mays, Jr. 864-972-2136

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**Annual District
Report Card**

2002

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The School District of Oconee County is the 19th largest of the 86 districts in South Carolina. The district has eleven elementary schools, five middle schools, four high schools, one career center and one alternative school that serve a reasonably stable population of ten thousand (10,000) students. Oconee County is a rural district and covers approximately 670 square miles. The schools in Oconee are smaller in size than the average size schools in the state, which allows for a closer personal touch while providing a quality education for all students.

The top priority for the Oconee County School Board and Administration is to be a top five district in the state. This has been a major goal for the past several years. As you examine your report you will notice that new test data has been included for your information. I am pleased to report to you that the average SAT score for our district for the year 2001 is 1002. This places Oconee 18 points below the national average of 1020 and 28 points above the state average. Our goal is to score above the national average annually. Also, our PACT scores will indicate that Oconee is 25th out of 86 districts in South Carolina. Our goals for the PACT are to be in the top ten percent (10%) in the state of South Carolina and finally in the top five percent (5%). Working together and focusing on the appropriate issues will assist us in reaching this goal.

Recently the Board has initiated the implementation of specific recommendations listed in a professional curriculum audit completed by H. Dale Holden and Associates. The purpose of this audit was to assist in determining our strengths and weaknesses as they relate to our overall educational programs. It also assisted in addressing the cost effectiveness of many of the programs now in place. Additionally our district office instructional staff has met with principals and/or curriculum coordinators for each school to develop individual school plans based on findings from the audit and from PACT information. These plans are to be used as improvement plans for each of these schools.

It is of utmost importance that school personnel, parents, students and entire communities plan and work together to achieve the goals initially set by the Board and Administration.

In this time of accountability and close scrutiny by all stakeholders, it is imperative that we work together in this endeavor.

Buddy G. Herring, Superintendent

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit
www.myschools.com or
www.sceoc.org